



TOWN OF HOLDEN
MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

Jacquelyn M. Kelly
Town Manager

February 19, 2016

TO: Board of Selectmen

FROM: Jacquelyn M. Kelly
Town Manager

SUBJECT: *Town Manager Update*

- 1. Amendments to WRSD Regional Agreement** – The WRSD School Committee has been developing amendments to the Regional Agreement to be brought to member towns' town meetings this spring. There will be a hearing on this matter on Monday, February 22, 2016 at 6:45 PM in the Media Center, Wachusett Regional High School. This public hearing is to give member town officials and residents the opportunity to provide input and to ask questions about these proposed amendments.

Information ☒ [X]

Vote ☐ []

Signature ☐ []

- 2. Creamer House Demolition** – After discussing the status of the former Creamer House, which was vacated over a year ago, we decided it would be in the Town's best interest to demolish the structure and grade the site. The structure can not be re-used without major alterations and it would not be a good use of town funds for a building with no useful purpose. If left vacant, it will become an attractive nuisance and a liability to the Town and neighborhood. It is also a safety hazard.

We determined that there was a small amount of asbestos that has been removed by an LSP. We have also removed any metal pipes that can be sold for scrap.

The Fire Department has indicated that it would like to use the structure for training before it is demolished. The training will take place once the weather improves, the neighbors notified, and all safety precautions taken by the Fire Department. We will keep you informed about the actual dates.

Information ☒ [X]

Vote ☐ []

Signature ☐ []

- 3. HMLD Monthly Report** – Enclosed is a monthly report for the Holden Municipal Light Department for the month of January 2016, prepared by Jim Robinson, General Manager.

Information ☒

Vote ☐

Signature ☐

- 4. Holden Pupil Population Study Taskforce** – The Pupil Population Study Taskforce has reviewed enrollment numbers and population trends in Holden. According to the enclosed memorandum from Darryll McCall, Superintendent of Schools, the Committee did not see major shifts in Holden student population trends. That has lead the Committee to conclude that re-districting will not be required at this time. However, the District will continue to monitor student enrollments in Holden elementary schools in the future.

Information ☒

Vote ☐

Signature ☐

- 5. Excise Tax Commitment** -- The Holden Tax Collector's office recently mailed approximately 16,500 motor vehicle excise tax bills for calendar year 2016. These bills, which are due by March 10, 2016, represent approximately 80% of the vehicles garaged in Holden. Excise bills are generated from the Registry of Motor Vehicles' records throughout the calendar year, and not all vehicle owners will receive an excise bill at this time. If a vehicle was purchased recently, it is likely that the owner will be billed sometime later this year.

Excise bills may be paid through the mail using the envelope provided to our bank lockbox for this first Commitment only. If you use the bill payer service through your bank, you must make sure the checks will be mailed to the Collector's Office, 1204 Main St., Holden, MA 01520 with the correct bill numbers noted on the checks. This will avoid any confusion as to what the payment is for when received and posted.

Payments may also be mailed directly to the Collector's office, 1204 Main St., Holden, MA 01520. In addition, the Collector's office highly recommends payments may be made online, either from a checking account or by credit card, by logging onto holdenma.gov and clicking on the "Pay Bills Online" link or in person on the second floor of the Starbard Building.

If you have sold your vehicle or have other questions regarding the validity of your excise bill, please call the Assessors' office at (508) 210-5514. If you did not receive a bill or have questions about payments, please contact the Collector's office at (508) 210-5510.

- 6. Education Options Review Committee** – Attached is a slightly edited version of the Charge for this Committee. We have placed a note about it on the web site and have received several inquiries about serving on the Committee.

Information ☐

Vote ☒

Signature ☐

Town Manager's Update 2-19-16

Please contact me should you have any questions concerning this memorandum.

Jacquelyn M. Kelly
Town Manager

Cc: Department Heads